

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on August 13, 2004 in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Ref. No.: 12439-0040
P111-US

Libby Hill

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/880,658 Confirmation No. 7329
Applicant : Eldridge et al.
Filed : June 13, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2829
Examiner : E. Pert

Docket No. : 276440-6

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

08/17/2004 LWONDIM1 00000038 09880658

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

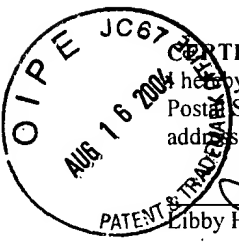
Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s).

Applicants believe that citation number 8 is a foreign counterpart to citation number 3.

Applicants ask that the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be initialed and returned in accordance with MPEP §609. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

COMMONLY OWNED, RELATED PATENTS AND APPLICATIONS

Applicants note that citation numbers 1-7 in the attached listing are commonly owned with the above-identified patent application and may contain subject matter that is related to the subject matter of the above-identified patent application. The Examiner's attention is therefore directed to the prosecution history of the foregoing related patent(s) and patent application(s) and prior art cited in these patent(s) and patent application(s); Applicants assume that the Examiner has access to all of the prosecution history, including the cited prior art, of these patents(s) and patent application(s), but Applicants will provide copies of all or any part of the prosecution history of or prior art from any of these patent(s) or patent application(s) upon request.



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**STATEMENT REGARDING COMMON OWNERSHIP OR
OBLIGATION TO ASSIGN TO A COMMON OWNER**

Sir:

At the time of the invention of at least claims 43, 44, 60-62, and 71 in the above-identified patent application, US Published Patent Application 2001/0012739 to Grube et al. was owned by FormFactor, Inc. (see assignment recorded at reel/frame 011626/0730 on March 19, 2001). Also at the time of the invention of at least claims 43, 44, 60-62, and 71 of the above-identified patent application, the above-identified patent application was subject to an obligation of assignment to FormFactor, Inc. See MPEP §706.02(1)(2), pg. 700-55; and "Guidelines Setting Forth a Modified Policy Concerning the Evidence of Common Ownership, or an Obligation of Assignment to the Same Person, as Required by 35 USC 103(c)," 1241 O.G. 96 (December 26, 2000).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 13, 2004

By

N. Kenneth Barraston
Reg. No. 39,923

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☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage
-- OR --
- ☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**

☒ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

A. a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**

B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

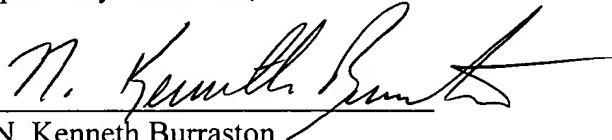
Fee:

- ☐ No fee is due.
☒ A check in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 13, 2004

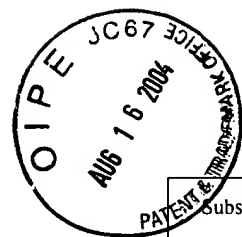
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/880,658
				Filing Date	June 13, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Eldridge et al.
				Group Art Unit	2829
Sheet	1	of	1	Examiner Name	E. Pert
				Attorney Docket No.	P111-US

U.S. PUBLISHED PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication/Issue Date
		Number	Kind Code ²		
	1	2001/0044225	A1	Eldridge et al.	11/22/2001
	2	2003/0099737	A1	Eldridge et al.	5/29/2003
	3	5994152		Khandros et al.	11/30/1999
	4	6713374		Eldridge et al.	3/3/2004

U.S. UNPUBLISHED PATENT APPLICATIONS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Serial No.	Name of Applicant	Filing Date
	5	09/364,788	Eldridge et al.	7/30/1999
	6	09/364,855	Eldridge et al.	7/30/1999
	7	09/710,539	Eldridge et al.	11/9/2000

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵			
	8	TW	341747		FormFactor	10/1/1998	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.